

A NEW SPECIES OF *CARDAMINE* (BRASSICACEAE)  
FROM NUEVO LEON, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

A novel taxon, *Cardamine cebollana* B.L. Turner, *sp. nov.*, is described from Sierra Cebolla, Mpio. Montemorelos, Nuevo Leon, Mexico. A photograph of the holotype is provided, along with a map showing its distribution, vis-a-vis, other taxa in the immediate area concerned. *Phytologia* 94(3): 384-387 (December 1, 2012).

**KEY WORDS:** Brassicaceae, *Cardamine*, Mexico, Nuevo León, Sierra Cebolla

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Routine identification of plant taxa from north-central Mexico has occasioned the present paper.

**CARDAMINE CEBOLLANA** B.L. Turner, *sp. nov.* **Fig. 1.**

**Perennial, glabrous, herbs** to 15 cm high arising from perennial tap-roots, 3-4 mm thick and the stems divaricately branched at its apex. **Basal leaves** 3-4 cm long, 1-2 cm wide, pinnately parted, so far as known, not persisting. **Stem leaves** (lower) similar to the basal, but larger (4-5 cm long), the 4-8 lateral segments oblanceolate, entire, or asymmetrically basally lobed, about the same size as the terminal segments; petioles 2-3 cm long, the leaves gradually reduced upwards. **Inflorescence** a divaricately branched assemblage of ca 20 stems, the whole ca 8 cm high, and as wide, the branches not at all fractiflex. **Pedicels** (fruiting) 5-8 mm long. **Sepals** purple or purplish, ca 2 mm long. **Petals**, white, oblanceolate, 2-4 mm long, 0.5-1.0 mm wide. **Anthers**, yellow, 4, ca 0.3 mm long. **Siliques** 1.5-2.0 cm long, ca 1

mm wide, erect, glabrous. **Seeds** ovoid, ca 1 mm long, 0.8 mm wide, glabrous, minutely rugose, 18-20 per fruiting body.

**TYPE: MEXICO. NUEVO LEON: Mpio. Montemorelos**, "6 Km SE of La Trinidad, in La Sierra Cebolla, just below the summit of one [sic] the picachos, on limestone, in fir-oak-Cupressus woodland." 2900 m, 25 11 N, 100 07 W, 5 Aug 1988, *T. F. Patterson 6150*(Holotype: TEX).

In the treatment of *Cardamine* for Mexico and Central America by Rollins (1993), largely because of its perennial habit and reddish sepals, *C. cebollana* will key to or near *C. eremita* Standl. & Steyerl., a localized, alpine, endemic of Guatemala.

Amongst Mexican taxa of *Cardamine*, the novelty appears to have no close relatives, although it resembles, vegetatively, *C. macrocarpa* Brandege, but lacks the fractiflex racemes and large siliques of that species.

The novelty is named for the Sierra La Cebolla, to which it seems confined; the latter locale and immediate environs is home to a number of localized endemics, including *Pinaropappus pattersonii* B.L. Turner and *Senecio pattersonii* B.L. Turner (Turner 1988; Turner 1996) and, more importantly, the very localized, *Picea martinezii* T.F. Patterson (Patterson 1988).

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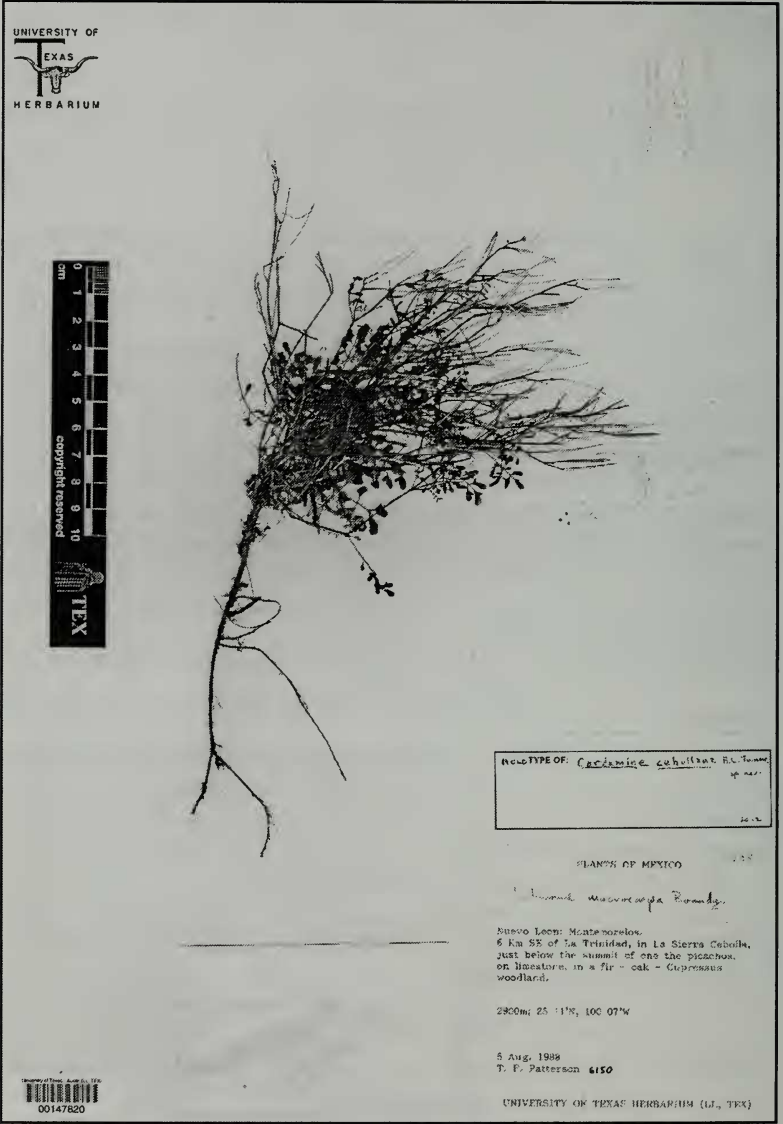


Fig. 1. Photograph of *Cardamine cebollana* (Holotype: TEX).



Fig. 2. *Cardamine cebollana* (details from type).

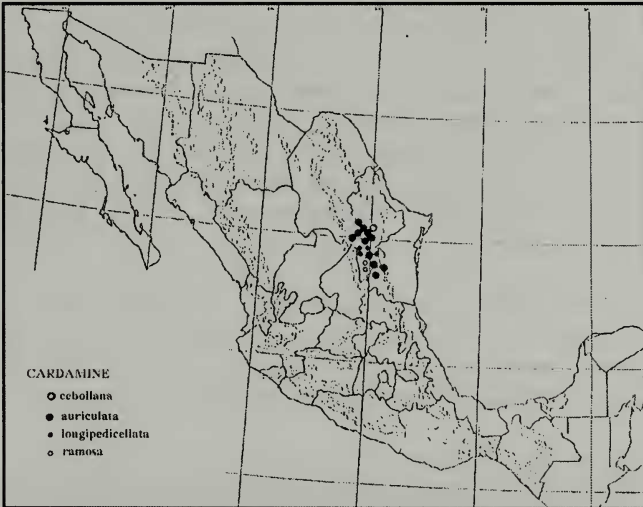


Fig. 3. Distribution of *Cardamine* spp. in vicinity of Sierra Cebolla.